

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 ISO-00 USIA-15 /026 W
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R 231607Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4312

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MASERU 0983

E O 11652: NA

TAGS: OEXC LT (SEHERI, ODILON M.)

SUBJ: KING'S REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN PROGRAMMING

AAI EXCHANGE VISITOR

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. IN MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR AUG 23, KING MOSHOESHOE II REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING SPECIAL PROGRAMMING IN CONNECTION WITH VISIT TO U.S. OF HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY, O.M. SEHERI.

2. SEHERI WAS FORMERLY PERMANENT SECRETARY OF EDUCATION IN WHICH CAPACITY HE RECEIVED AAI GRANT TO TRAVEL U.S. FOR 60 DAYS TO OBSERVE EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. FOUR DAYS INTO HIS TOUR, HOWEVER, HE WAS SUDDENLY RECALLED TO LESOTHO IN CONNECTION WITH GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION AND WAS NAMED PRIVATE SECRETARY TO HIS MAJESTY ON JULY 3.

3. KING TOLD AMBASSADOR HE HOPED CHANGE IN SEHERI'S POSITION WOULD NOT PREVENT HIM COMPLETING 60 DAYS IN U.S. AND, IN ADDITION, HOPED THAT PROGRAMMING COULD INCLUDE EXPOSURE IN PUBLIC RELATIONS, PROTOCOL PRACTICE, AND DIGNITARY SECURITY, WHICH WOULD BE ESPECIALLY VALUABLE TO SEHERI IN HIS NEW CAPACITY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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4. ALTHOUGH SEHERI SUFFERED SETBACK (WHICH PROBABLY

TEMPORARY) IN BEING MOVED FROM PERMSEC POSITION TO BECOME KING'S PRIVATE SECRETARY, HE IS CLEARLY CAPABLE, INTELLIGENT, AND HAS HIGH POTENTIAL. MOREOVER, NEW POSITION IS BY NO MEANS UNIMPORTANT AND KING'S DIRECT REQUEST TO AMBASSADOR ON HIS BEHALF GIVES ADDED IMPETUS TO OUR DESIRE TO BE RESPONSIVE. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

5. REQUEST DEPARTMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH AAI, DETERMINE STATUS SEHERI'S GRANT. IF, AS WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND, GRANT CAN BE RESUSCITATED, REQUEST DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMMING TO ENSURE EXPOSURE IN FIELDS REQUESTED BY KING.
BOLEN

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